

Virginia Transportation Conference

Transportation Safety

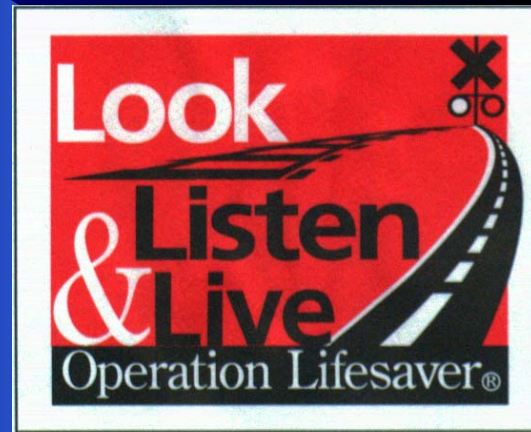
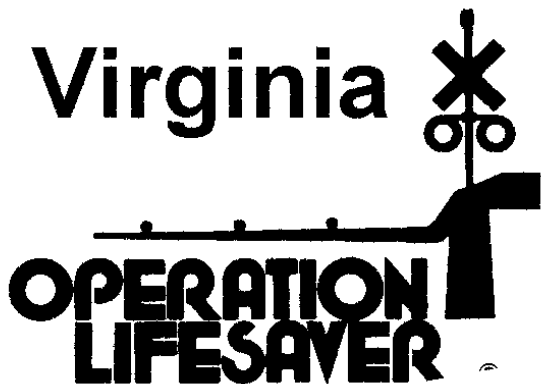
Steve Eilert- State Coordinator

Virginia Operation Lifesaver

“Improving Highway-Rail Grade
Crossing Safety”

Virginia Operation Lifesaver

Steve Eilert
State Coordinator



Operation Lifesaver Mission

To end needless deaths and injuries at
highway-rail grade crossings and on
railroad rights-of-way.

Operation Lifesaver®

Introduction

- Non-Profit Organization to promote Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety & Trespass Prevention on Railroad Rights-of-Way
- Education
- Enforcement
- Engineering

Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

Purpose

To deliver a national public awareness and safety education program to reduce collisions, deaths and injuries on or around highway-rail crossings and railroad property.

Operation Lifesaver®

OL Started in Ohio in 1972

- Combined efforts of:
 - -Union Pacific Railroad
 - -Idaho Peace Officers
 - -Governor Cecil Andrus' Office
- First year in operation crossing related fatalities dropped 43%
- Idea spread to Nebraska, Kansas,
- and Georgia with similar results
- 1989 National OLI Office Established
- 1979 Virginia's Program Started

Organization is Made up of:

- State Coordinator
- Trainers
- District Captains
- Presenters (Volunteers) 83 people

Any Time is Train Time



National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Collisions

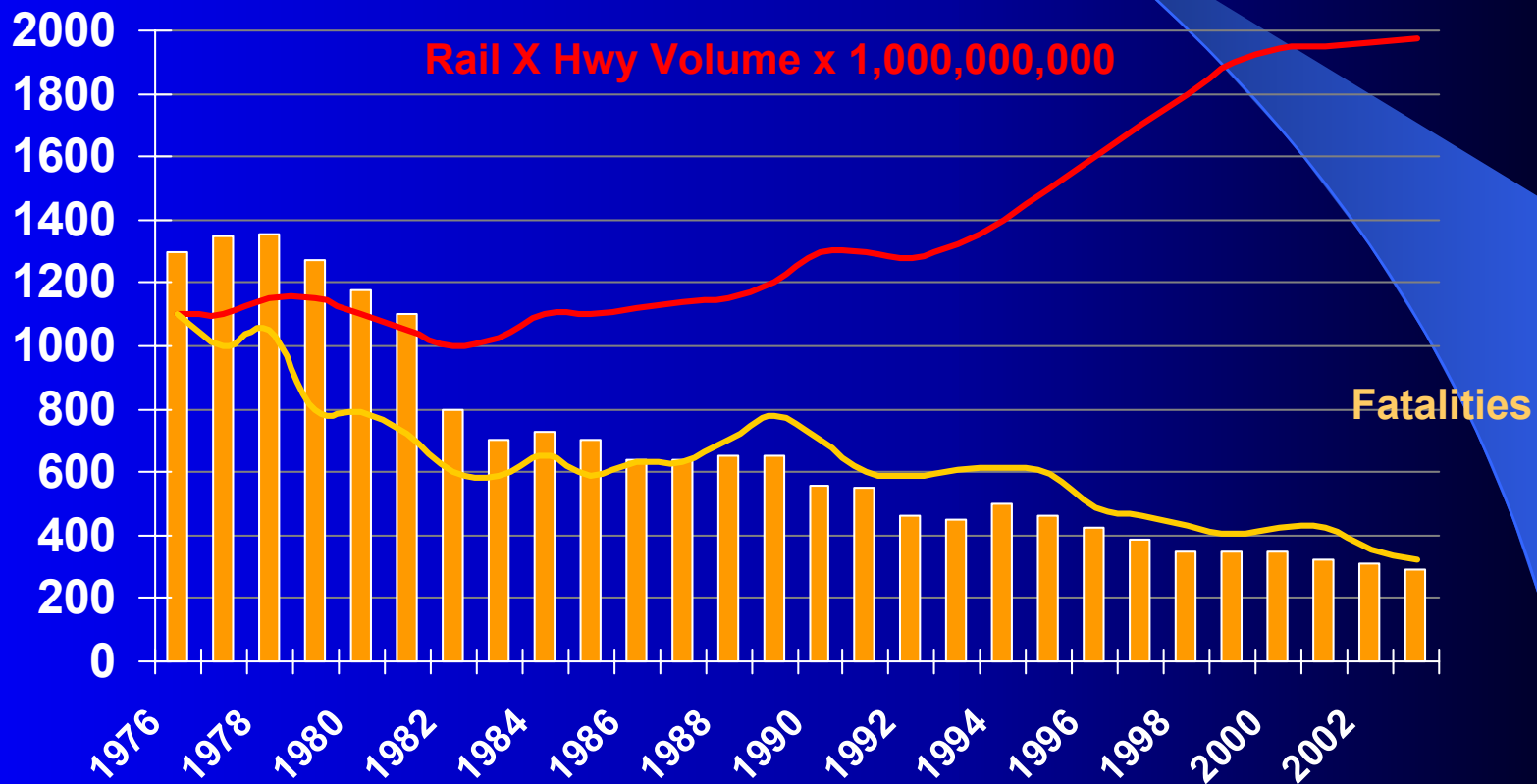
● Year	# Collisions	Fatalities	Injuries
● 1999	3,489	402	1,396
● 2000	3,502	425	1,219
● 2001	3,237	421	1,157
● 2002	3,072	356	998
● 2003	2,929	329	1,002
● Source:	FRA (09/04)		

Rail Incidents: Virginia

•	2002	2003	
•	4,828	4,860	Crossings
•	39	54	Highway-
•			Rail Crash
•	2	7	Fatalities



Highway-rail Grade Crossings: Safety Trends



Trains Can't Swerve



Approximate Stopping Distance at 55 MPH



200 FT



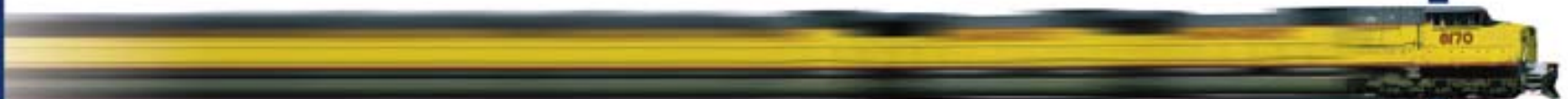
230 FT



300 FT



600 FT



5280 FT

Highway-Rail Grade Crossings in Virginia

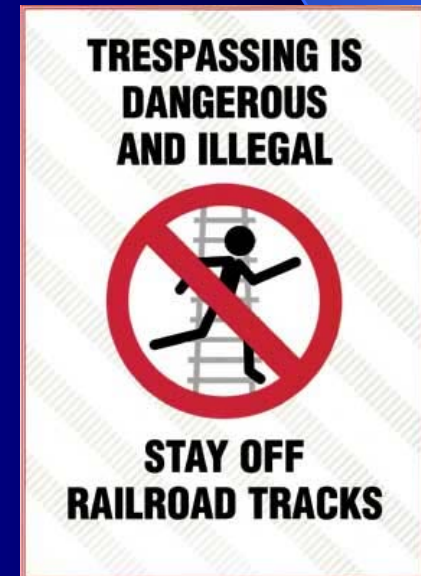
- By 2010 we should have High-Speed Rail
- Crossing Improvements by NS & CSX:
 - -Reviewing all their Crossings
 - -Closing some and Improving others
- Average gated crossing cost-\$200,000
- Coordination between RR, Local, & State
- All working to improve SAFETY

National Trespassing Fatalities

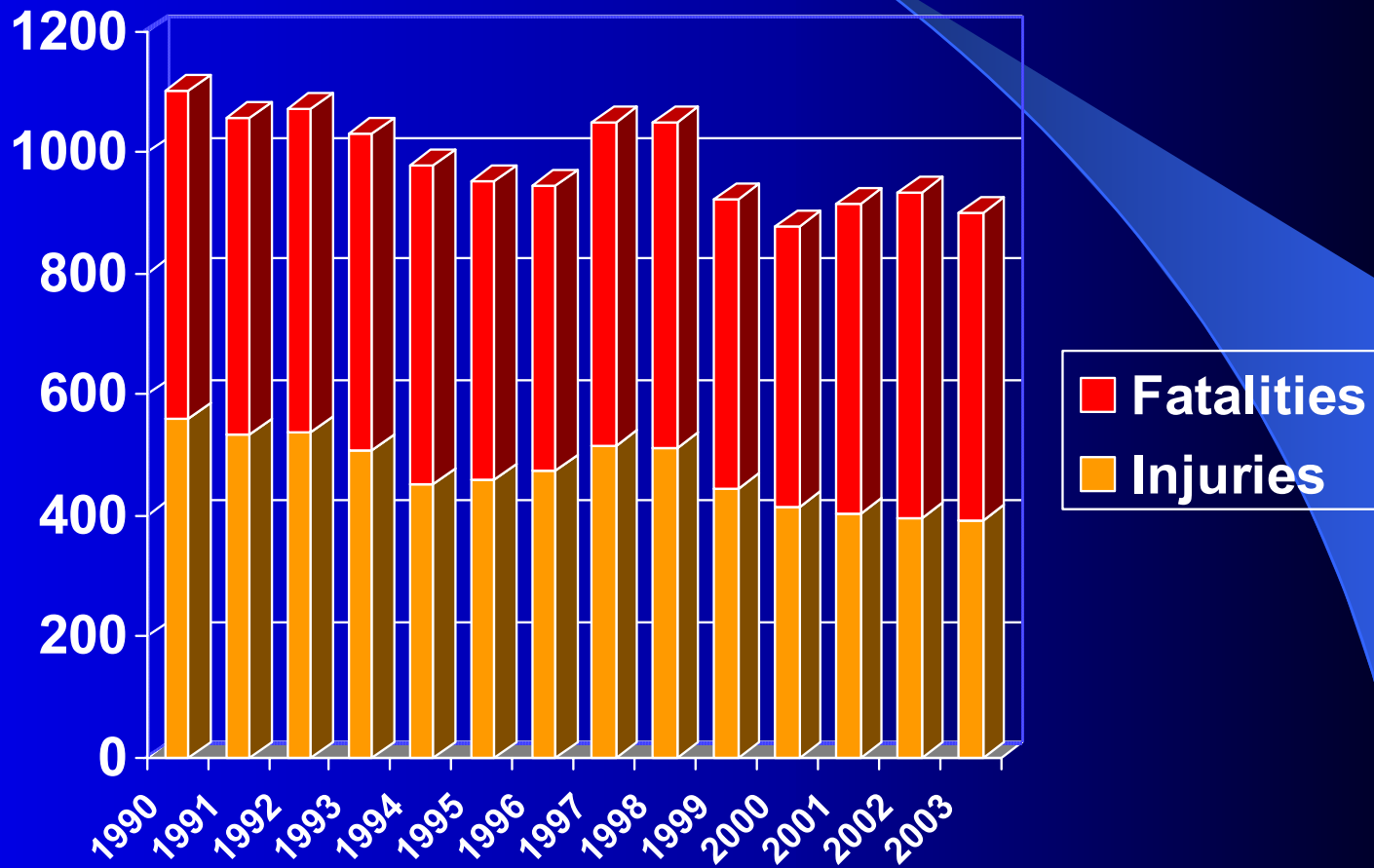
- Year # Fatalities
- 1999 479
- 2000 463
- 2001 511
- 2002 540
- 2003 500
- Virginia Ranks # 7 in the Nation-Injuries

Trespassing Incidents: Virginia

- 2002 2003
- 21 27 Casualties
- 11 10 Fatalities



Rail Trespassing: Safety Trends



Don't Stop, Pass or Shift



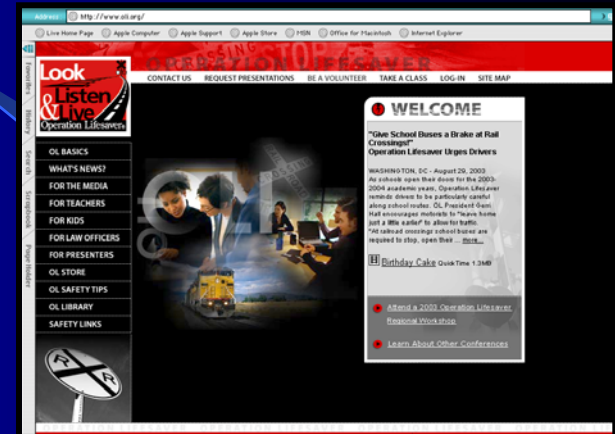


Getting Our Message out:

- -School & Drivers Training Classes
- -Professional Driver's Training Courses
- -Public Safety Personnel
- -Business & Civic Groups
- -Trespass Prevention to
 - Elementary & Middle Schools
- -Anyone that will listen!!

Operation Lifesaver: Website Online

- Check out www.oli.org
- Home Page – OL Basics leads to info on Education, Enforcement and Engineering
- Specialized information:
 - For State Coordinators, Presenters, Trainers: Statistics, Forms, Link to Directory, Reports
 - For Law Enforcement – Links to GCCI classes. EMS Class links next
 - For Teachers – K-12 Curriculum
 - For Kids – Fun things to see & do
 - OL Library – Visuals, Flyers, Posters, etc. Links to research findings, studies coming.
- NEW - Sign up for *OL Report* e-newsletter
- NEW - Drivers Tests for Students, Truckers

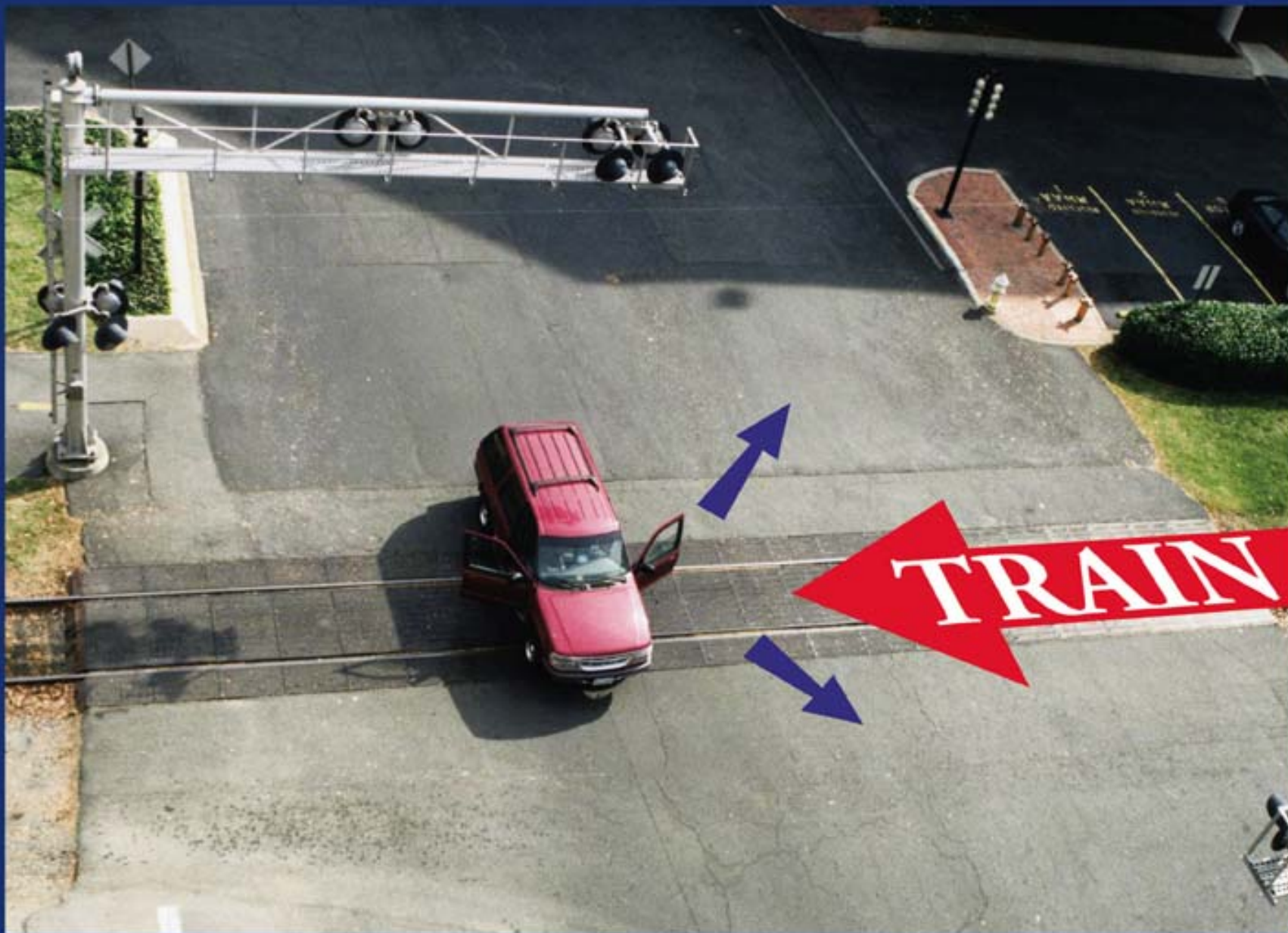


Presenters' Class:



Public Safety Training:





DOT 178809S



Getting the Word Out:



Public Safety Messages



Next Step:

- If you are interested in our program and would like a FREE Presentation or become a Presenter, Please contact me:
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- Phone- (804)732-9200
- P.O. Box 3046
Petersburg, VA 23805